

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1744

Introduced by: **REP. PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The First Congressional District of the Province of Surigao del Sur is composed of the Municipalities of Bayabas, Cagwait, Cantilan, Carmen, Carrascal, Cortes, Lanuza, Lianga, Madrid, Marihatag, San Agustin, San Miguel, Tago, including the provincial capital Tandag.

These fourteen (14) municipalities cover an aggregate area of 3,378.8 square kilometers, with practically the entire expanse of the Diwata Mountains cutting across the whole district. One town, San Miguel, lies at the bosom of the magnificent Diwata ranges, while the other town centers face the seas or bays that dot the rugged coastline of the province.

This great expanse of territory, though undoubtedly a source of wealth for its people, is ironically also a disadvantage with regard for instance to the delivery of basic social services and accessibility to crucial government and private agencies. This unfortunate situation has effectively resulted in the people of the First District of Surigao del Sur being underrepresented in the law-making body of the land.

In our system of representative democracy, this is a flaw that must be corrected. Hence, this bill seeks to create a new district, called the Third Congressional District of the Province of Surigao del Sur, out of what forms the First Congressional District today. Specifically, the proposed congressional district will be composed of the municipalities of Tago, Bayabas, Cagwait, Marihatag, San Agustin, Lianga and San Miguel. Meanwhile, the municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan, Madrid, Carmen, Lanuza, Cortes, including the provincial capital Tandag will remain with the First Legislative District. The Second Congressional District of Surigao del Sur will not be affected.

PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.



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AN ACT
CREATING ANOTHER LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR TO BE KNOWN AS THE THIRD DISTRICT OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the Philippines in Session assembled:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created another legislative district in the Province of Surigao del Sur to be known as the Third District of Surigao del Sur, which shall be composed of the following municipalities:

1. Tago
2. Bayabas
3. Cagwait
4. Marihatag
5. San Agustin
6. Lianga
7. San Miguel

SEC. 2. The First Legislative District of the Province of Surigao del Sur shall retain the Municipalities of Carrascal, Cantilan, Madrid, Carmen, Lanuza, Cortes, including the provincial capital Tandag; while the Second Congressional District shall retain the Municipalities of Barobo, Hinatuan, Lingig, Tagbina, including the City of Bislig.

SEC. 3. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.